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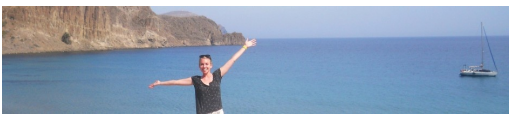
Spring 13

Volume 12

Mansfield University
English & Modern Languages Newsletter



Advice for Life Post-Mansfield

--Joe Gridley

My life has been interesting since I left Mansfield. I went to law school in Ohio, worked as an intern in public service lawyering, moved to Indianapolis to work with non-profits, and finally moved to New York to work at a law firm that advertises late at night. You know the one: "We'll get you the money you deserve now!"

Right now, I'm laid off and back facing the job market. So, to be blunt, I've acquired plenty of stories to tell in the last five years. Yet, while they may be interesting, they're not likely to be inspirational. And since I'd like to offer help to those of you that are just starting at MU, here´s my best advice:

The truth is, your experience is going to be what you make of it. Do your work, get a part-time job, spend as much time as possible with friends, and don't forget your family!

Although it seems like I have a little to offer those of you that are about to graduate, I can at least add some things that you should not do:

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Excerpts from "Liv In Spain: Blog of my study abroad"

--Olivia Shedden

October 25, 2012

So, as I'm sure all of you know, I am a HUGE coffee fan. In fact, it is probably the most important part of my morning routine. And, on any given day I usually have 2 (or 3) cups before lunch, occasionally followed by another 1 or 2 in the afternoon. Normally back at home, I make my coffee and put it in a thermos to drink on-the-go,because I have this habit of occasionally running late--another shocker, I know. After a few days of shopping in various stores for apartment essentials, I was surprised that I did not find one *Thermos*. Aside from McDonalds, I have not seen one restaurant or store that sells coffee to go, even in the mornings. Instead the Spanish actually take time to sit down and enjoy their meals. From my dining out experiences, I can tell you they are actually really good at this and will spend about 2x longer eating a meal than we (or at least I) usually do.

November 20, 2012

Today marks one of my favorite holidays, Hug-a-Runner Day (Yes, this is real holiday. Don't act like you've never heard of it).

Although I enjoy (Continued on page 4)

Please, send news, announcements, and contributions to: lpifer@mansfield.edu

Susquehanna University's 9th Annual Undergraduate Literature and Creative Writing Conference

On February 18, 2013, seven English majors presented their research at Susquehanna University Undergraduate Conference. The conference is competitive, and these students presented well, fielded questions well, and learned a bit about doing the conference shuffle. For those of you interested in scraping together an abstract and sending it to SU for next year's conference, the deadline is November 30, 2013. The Call for Papers announcement is here: http://www.susqu.edu/academics/3047.asp. If you have any doubts, ask the students who presented this year for their take:

Ashley Bedford, "Pain and Passion: A Rhetorical Analysis of the Eroticization of Violence in Advertisements"
Amanda Cino, "Messiah versus Devil: Mapping Identity in *Fallout 3*"
Jordan Hallock, "The Paperbark of Aboriginal Literature"
Caitlin Johnson, "Colonel Slade's Speech in *Scent of a Woman*: A Rhetorical Analysis"
Cameron Murphy, "The Death of a Free Thinker and the Birth of Industry in *Frankenstein* and *Heart of Darkness*"
Christina Rinnert, "Scratch It On the Floorboards: Finding (and Losing) the Female Voice in 'The Yellow Wallpaper' and 'Seventeen Syllables'"
Stephanie Williams, "Native Americans: From the Mayflower to Present Day"

Creative Writing Conference

--Caitlin Johnson

Attending the conference was a new experience to be remembered, as I have never participated in a conference before. Each session had multiple panels to choose from, which was difficult because they all seemed interesting and worth viewing. The most thrilling part of the conference, however, was to get up in front of a room of college students and professors and present an article I could not help editing even then. Imagine my relief and satisfaction when I realized that as I spoke, my audience remained captive rather than passively conscious. That alone speaks to the caliber of work produced by each and every participant at the conference. Every essay and article I heard presented was a product of top-notch research and creativity. To gather together with a large assembly of people who have the same passion – writing – is an unforgettable opportunity.

The diversity of topics, motivations, and interests was stunning to observe – here were unique individuals brought together by a common goal, to share excellent writing. While presenting my article was fulfilling, the most memorable aspect of the conference was the fact that I had this opportunity to spend a day with these remarkable people.

A Quiet Fire in our Midst: Samantha Lienhard, the Busy Writer.

--E. Washington

In the past year, I have been hearing bits and pieces from senior English major, Samantha Lienhard, about her budding writing career—a career quietly zooming along in the background of her full screen pursuit of a BA degree in English Literature (MU class of 2013). Samantha is an Honors English major with a 3.98 GPA. In 2012, she received the English Department's Larry K. Uffelman Book Award for Outstanding Achievement in British Literature. In that same year, she also won the English Department's award for the Outstanding Critical Essay in the Research category. But who knew that Samantha has been leading a full blown double-life as a published creative and commercial writer? My email interview with Samantha resulted in a wonderful "bio" about herself that she uses for professional promotion. It says better than I what has been going on in Samantha's not so quiet life as a professional writer:

"Samantha decided that she wanted to be an author when she was in second grade, and she has been writing stories and novels ever since. An avid reader, she was greatly influenced by the writing styles of Edgar Allan Poe and Ray Bradbury for short stories, and later H.P. Lovecraft as well. When it came to novel writing, her greatest inspirations were J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, and Garth Nix, among others. In more recent years, Brandon Sanderson became her favorite author and one of her greatest inspirations.

Writing went from being her hobby to the activity she wanted to center her life and career around. She found time for writing whenever she could, hoping to one day be a published author. Her first publication was "White Lady," a short story about the ghost said to haunt the Mansfield University library. In 2011, a publisher released *Sacreya's Legacy*, a horror serial about a zombie detective.

(Continued on page 4)

Mu Xi, the Mansfield chapter of the international English Honor Society, Sigma Tau Delta, has been busy this semester. Members held a wildly successful bake sale over Valentine's Day and packed up and shipped out fourteen more boxes of books to the Better World Book Drive. Two members, Christina Rinnert and Jordan Hallock traveled to Portland, Oregon in March to present their papers at the organization's international convention. While there, Christina's essay on the conference theme was named one of the top ten of all of the submissions, which is quite a distinction! In April, the group plans a trip to Binghamton to see a Shakespearean play.

On April 11th, chapter members will install new officers and induct new members. New members include: Matthew Getz; Caitlin Johnson; Courtney Wark; and Chelsi Wood. The public is invited to this event, which begins at 11:30am in Belknap 104. Refreshments will be served.

(Continued from page 1)

Excerpts from "Liv In Spain

running along the boardwalk (You can't beat the scenery!) it is generally far too crowded for me. But, luckily I found a running route with less population density than the board walk. I stumbled upon this running loop that circles a park about a month ago and I have been running here ever since.

Happy Thanksgiving!

I celebrated Thanksgiving by attending my Medieval History class (Apparently Spain doesn't celebrate America's day of thanks, weird..?) and then I spent the afternoon preparing a Thanksgiving feast with my roomies… Although it was a tough day to be away from home, sharing our holiday with friends made it a special and memorable.

February 4, 2013

It's the end of the semester and finals weekS are in full swing! That's right, I said *weeks* as in plural. Here at my university in Almeria, there are 3 weeks of finals after the semester ends.

Yesterday I decided to take a break from studying and went on an exchange student trip with some *amigos* to an olive oil mill, hiking/picnic and wine tasting. It was a great break from the studying and it was nice to breathe in some fresh air! The first hour of the hike was pretty much *all* up hill, but the views were gorgeous!! At times the hike was pretty intense! Lots of narrow walks and cliffs!! After the hike we stopped in a small town for a winery tour and wine tasting! White *pueblos,* like this one are very typical in Andalusia.

February 27, 2013

Since I last posted, I have successfully survived finals weeks, traveled to Germany, and started the spring semester! It seems so crazy for me to think that I have been here an entire semester already – where does time go?!

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A Quiet Fire in our Midst

Most recently, she has found work as a freelance writer creating a fantasy story around the products sold by Wizards of the West, and she has had two more stories published, both by Kellan Publishing. The first, "A Special Present," is a short romance story about two of Santa's elves. The second is a comedy novella following the zany quest of two scientists who accidentally create a zombie, and is fittingly titled *The Accidental Zombie*.

No matter what she is writing, be it a serious story or something just for fun, Samantha loves the excitement of creating a story and watching the plot and characters unfold on the page. And when something she has written strikes a chord with readers, it thrills her to think that her writing has caught their imaginations like so many authors have caught hers. Her favorite genre to write in is horror, both Lovecraftian and Gothic, followed by the genres of fantasy and science fiction. Though she has much to owe to the novels she reads, they are not her only sources of inspiration. Anything could spark an idea—from an idle comment, to the nightmare-ridden fog of *Silent Hill*, to the halls of Collinwood in the classic 1966-1971 *Dark Shadows*.

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Over the past week, I have realized how much Almeria feels like home to me, as I have been meeting new exchange students who are just arriving and getting settled in for the second semester.

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Advice for Life Post-Mansfield

Don't stop writing! In a few months, you're going to feel relieved that you've handed in your *last* final papers. You'll think that it can't hurt to take a little bit of time to simply be away from the keyboard. But don't let that little bit of time stretch too far! Once you're out of the habit of constantly writing, it's very hard to return to it.

This year, I resolved to spend time writing every day. That quickly turned into "I don't have time to write anything other than a status update today, so I'll put some real effort into writing tomorrow." Such a tomorrow does not come easy. It's as difficult a resolution to keep as "I will exercise every day." Which, by the way, is another thing to consider – you're about to lose easy access to a fitness center. The decline in your writing and exercise habits are likely to be very similar if you do not make special efforts to keep working at both.

Don't stop reading challenging material! You're about to go from being required to read Shakespeare, Thoreau, and Fish to being free to read Harry Potter, The Hunger Games, and Spiderman. Up to now, you've only had rare opportunities to find time outside your studies to read something for the simple pleasure of reading. Use some of this new freedom to explore Literature (with a capital L, of course) that wasn't on a syllabus. Don't get me wrong – I firmly believe that there are valuable analyses that we can do with pop culture. And there's nothing wrong with reading just to unwind. But as much as I love comic books, I have a hard time finding really rich material to get into in the latest issue of Ultimate Spiderman.

A quick aside: I find the differences between literature and Literature fuzzy, arbitrary, silly, and unhelpful at best. At the end of the day, it's up to you to decide which category Spiderman fits into.

Don't stop using the foreign language you've studied! This is perhaps the most pragmatic advice I've got to give. If you're fluent in one or more foreign languages, you've got an advantage in the job market. You don't have to sit down and read through foreign language newspapers every night. But foreign language radio is always available on the internet, and foreign films are always available on Netflix (and you're likely to get subtitles to help you along if you need to cheat now and then).

Finally, don't doubt your decision to be an English major! The next few years are likely going to be difficult. You will not have money, but everyone will want money from you. Your standard of living probably won't be noticeably different from what you have now. If you have friends that majored in STEM, they will likely have an easier time getting jobs, money, and things than you will. However, should you start to feel frustrated by that injustice, remind yourself that you didn't sign up as an English major because you wanted a job as an Englisher. I suspect that, whatever your reason for signing up was, you'll find that your time at MU has helped you toward those goals.

Poetry Reading

--Jacob Flock

The English and Modern Languages Department, and Women's Studies Program sponsored a reading by poet Julia Kasdorf on April 4, 2013. Here is one student's response:

Julia Kasdorf is a name that I had never heard until this past Thursday. I have often overlooked poetry, and it would appear to me that so do many other people at Mansfield University. Professor Kasdorf, who teaches at PSU, read a variety of her poems to a crowd of around 30 students, faculty, and community members. Ms. Kasdorf read aloud from two of her published books of poetry; *Eve's Striptease* and *Poetry in America*. One thing that stood out to me without much effort was her use of alliteration. Some of the poems she read were titled "Bat Boy Break a Leg" and "Double the Digits."

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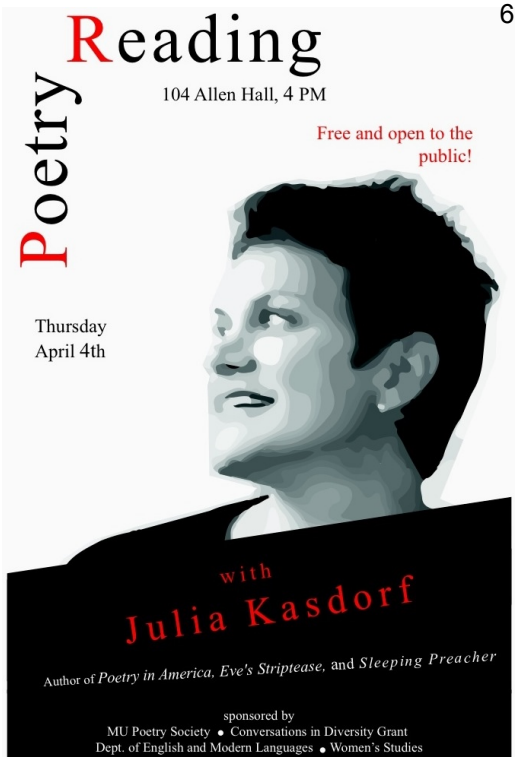
Poetry Reading
104 Allen Hall, 4 PM
Free and open to the public!
Thursday
April 4th
with
Julia Kasdorf
Author of Poetry in America, Eve's Striptease, and Sleeping Preacher
sponsored by
MU Poetry Society • Conversations in Diversity Grant
Dept. of English and Modern Languages • Women's Studies

A Quiet Fire in our Midst

(Continued from page 4)

After graduating from Mansfield, she hopes to attend graduate school for creative writing, so that she can hone her techniques and improve her stories. With four novels written and more ideas in her head, she has been querying agents as well as seeking out publishers for her shorter stories. Her dream of becoming a professional author has never died, and the discovery of freelance writing has opened up a world of new opportunities. She is currently anticipating the publication of her horror serial *The Book at Dernier* in July, and who knows what may lie in store after that?"

If you want to read some of Samantha's work, she can be accessed via Amazon in hard copy or electronically. Use her coupon code, SamanthaLienhard16, to get 15% off and give royalty credits to Samantha.

If you want to see some of Samantha's commercial work for *Wizards of the West Fashions*, access through: http://wizardsofthewest.com/ and check out some of the category and individual product descriptions.

Good luck to Samantha in all her future endeavors!

Poetry Out Loud Contest

--E. Washington

On Saturday, February 16, 2013, the MU Department of English and Modern Languages played host to the regional competition for the National Educational Association's annual Poetry Out Loud contest. The event was held in the new Allen Hall Auditorium on the MU campus. In collaboration with Cat Badger of the Bradford County Regional Arts Council, EML faculty member, Dr. Edward Washington, helped to secure the venue, to arrange for refreshments, and to coordinate with MU student, Hanako Henty, to provide musical accompaniment for the event. Dr. Judith Sornberger, Ms. Lilace Guignard, and Dr. Washington served as judges for the contest. EML department chair, Dr. Thomas Murphy, was on hand to welcome the organizers and participants, and to encourage the five regional contestants and their mentors to consider Mansfield University and the EML program when applying to college. A representative from the state office of PA Poetry Out Loud was in attendance, and the event was covered by the local newspaper, the *Mansfield Gazette*.

Poetry Out Loud is a nationwide poetry recitation contest that provides high school students with the opportunity to read, comprehend, and recite some of the world's greatest poetry. Competitions start locally at individual high schools, then move on through regional, state, and finally nationwide contests. Statewide winners compete for tens of thousands of dollars in cash awards at the national contest. But students at every level benefit greatly from the opportunity to: hone their academic and public speaking skills, to meet new and talented people, to establish close mentor relationships with instructors, and to add a valuable line to their resume as they begin to apply to colleges or seek employment.

Read about it in Living, included in Feb. 20, 2012, editions of the Wellsboro Gazette, Mansfield Gazette and Westfield Free Press-Courier
Photo prints for sale at tiogapublishing.smugmug.com under Jason Przybycien, Art at Mansfield University

Many of the contestants and their mentors took away info about the EML department, and all seemed pleased with their visit to campus. The EML department hopes to hold the contest on campus annually as a way to introduce potential students, local teachers, and the region more generally, to the Department of English and Modern Languages at Mansfield University.

Faculty Spotlight:

Professors Blanco and Sornberger

Looking Forward to Retirement

Two members of the Department of English and Modern Language are retiring at the end of the spring semester.

Prof. Flor Blanco has been teaching Spanish since she joined the Modern Language Department in 1988. Flor is an active member of the department, and became Assistant Chair of the English and Modern Languages departments when the two were combined in 1999. She served ten years as Assistant Chair of EML.

Flor has also served as advisor for el Club de Español since she arrived in 1988. This student club enjoys cooking and eating meals together and going on trips. Flor took El Club de Español students to Spain over winter break in 1992, to Mexico over spring break in 1994, and on one trip to Rochester, one to Washington, D.C., and several trips to New York City. She has also taught MU students in two six –week courses in Costa Rica during the summer of 1996. She is an advocate of study abroad programs, and accompanied MU students on the exchange program with the University of Volgograd in Russia fall of 2001 and fall of 2010.

After retiring, Flor plans to "Enjoy the company of my family, travel to many countries, read for leisure, continue studying French to become completely fluent in this language, help in a soup kitchen or in a similar organization, continue writing poetry and short stories, and do whatever I feel like doing." This sounds like an excellent plan, and we wish her all the best.

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Poetry Reading

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Once I knew of her use of this poetic device, it became almost comical that the reading took place on 4/4 @4p.m. in Allen 104. I have no clue if this was planned but it surely fit well with her poetry. Ms. Kasdorf admitted that she sometimes had no clue where her poetry was going while she was writing it. So maybe the date, time, and location were planned, or maybe it was a happy accident that turned into a lovely evening.

As I entered the poetry reading I was asking myself one major question. Having never been to a poetry reading I wanted to know why people attended them. I had the stereotypical thought that poetry is for some dimly lit coffee shop with only very artistic people attending. I arrived to something far different. I was wrapped in after the ending of the first poem. Ms. Kasdorf recited a poem and then stated that it was a true story.

I thought that poetry was written with imagination, not from real life events. I learned that people may not even attend poetry readings for the poetry. The witty banter and explanation of the poems helped to draw the crowd in. This reading changed my outlook on poetry readings completely. In the hour that I was there I went from thinking that poetry was a subculture to realizing that anyone can enjoy it if they only give it time. I would highly recommend that everyone on the campus of MU seize the opportunity to attend the next reading. Even if they do not enjoy the poetry, they might find that the atmosphere of a reading is much like talking to a friend.

Portland and Le Guin

--Jordan Hallock

Portland had only seemed like New York three days earlier, but after two nights in the Hilton and having met Ursula Le Guin, the city transformed into a writer's paradise for me. When I awoke a little late, around ten a.m., on Friday, still a little out of rhythm with the three hour time difference, I realized after reading through my paper that I still wanted to make changes to it. I was a year older since I had written my paper, and a lot can change for a writer in a year. The paper, titled "The Paperbark of Aboriginal Literature," piggybacked upon the title of an out-of-print text that I found most of my research in, and seemed to be a good paper as far as content was concerned. However, my style seemed to lack the creative appeal that I wanted it to have. So, I started drudging through the clunky, two a.m. coffee-induced sentences attempting to transform my essay into something more unique. After much editing, the paper started to emerge from the depths of last minute research paper to the surface of conference worthy composition. I left feeling confident, though I was unfamiliar with the other works being discussed in my panel.

I remember drinking a lot before I walked to the podium, in attempt to fight off my dry throat and settle the caffeine in my veins. Glancing up from my shaky hands, I looked out at my foreign audience, asking, "Has anyone read any Aboriginal Literature before?" I was prepared to see a hand or two, but I didn't see any, not even the moderator who was a professor. A strong feeling of alienation seemed to resonate from my audience. I cleared my throat, introduced my paper and began to read. The air in the room turned on when I was about a third of the way through, disrupting the connection between my words and the room. I began to struggle. I could feel the rumble of the heating unit in the flowery Hilton carpet. I fought the dull sound of the fan for the next ten minutes until I finally allowed it to blow me back down into my seat at the panel.

Discussion opened before I could regain myself fully, and hands started slicing through the air that seemed so thick while I was standing. The first question was for all of us. I answered. The rest of the panel answered. The question resurfaced. I changed my answer. The panel stood by their answers. I was enjoying the discussion, but my answers seemed to be too dynamic for an audience that expected an expert.

Then a lady in the back, a non-trad, said that she felt that my paper was making a judgment on English as a language, and I couldn't do that because language is too dynamic and connected to a culture to be judged. She argued that the indigenous languages of the Aborigines had to have changed over time too and eventually would have lost some of their culture through this evolution as well. How could I say that one language was better than another? The air unit miraculously turned off for her question, allowing her to fill the room with her query.

I sat there staring at her, *Are you kidding me right now?* I wanted to ask the room, plead my case. But no, I had to answer. I began rambling, fumbling over a concept I had meshed out so clearly a year ago in my World Lit class. I found an idea and presented it. She didn't accept it. More hands shot up, even from other presenters. The room began circling around this query using up all our time for the panel. We finished and the presenter next to me said that he tried to help me. I smiled at him and said thanks. Then I got up to find the woman who had challenged my paper, but I ran into the moderator who wanted to ask how I became interested in this peripheral literature. I began to answer with "Well, I had this professor at Mansfield University…," but I never really forgot about that woman, even as I talked with the moderator,and her question—the question that transformed everything.

Faculty Spotlight:

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Prof. Judith Sornberger began teaching poetry, composition, and women's literature in the English Department in 1990. When she arrived, she created the Women's Studies Program, including the minor in Women's Studies, and has served as Women's Studies Director for the majority of her years here. Judith says, "As Women's Studies Director, I've been proud of the many speakers we have brought to campus, thereby not only supporting the WS program, but also contributing to diversity on our campus overall. Early on, we had Maya Angelou speak and read her poetry. Other notables have been Native American poet and novelist Linda Hogan, mystery writer (of the Seneca Falls series), Miriam Monfredo, author of *Where the Girls Are,* Susan Douglas, author of *Full Frontal Feminism*and and the blog *Feministing* Jessica Valenti. Another important contribution the Women's Studies program has made during my time here has been raising money for and awarding the Ann Mabe Memorial Scholarship to Women's Studies minors."

Judith is a poet. She worked with Louise Sullivan-Blum to create the creative writing minor, and teaches poetry at the introductory and advanced levels. Since her arrival at Mansfield, Judith published a full-length collection of poems *Open Heart* (Calyx Books) and five chapbooks of poems, most recently *Wal-Mart Orchid* (Evening Street Press). She has also published numerous poems and essays in journals and anthologies and has had a poem set to music, performed, and recorded.

Judith recalls, "There have been many highlights in my teaching career--often occurring on a day to day basis in the classroom--but taking students on field trips has been especially rewarding. I remember taking 40 Introduction to Women's Studies students by bus to Seneca Falls

to see where the first Women's Conference was held and to visit Elizabeth Cady Stanton's House.
Last spring I took my Louisa May Alcott class on a three-day trip to Concord and Amherst, MA, to visit Alcott's house along with the homes of other notable writers, some of them her mentors, such as Ralph Waldo Emerson. We also visited, and hiked partway around, Walden Pond. In Amherst we visited Emily Dickinson's home. I have also loved sharing my passion for poetry writing with students and delighted in watching them discover their own deep wells of poetic material as well as developing the tools to bring this material to the surface in meaningful and beautiful ways."

Since Judith prefers saying that she's "graduating" to saying that she's "retiring," we wish her a happy graduation!

"Freedom of Thought"

--Ashley Bedford

On Monday, February 18, several students from the English program at MU travelled to Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania, for Susquehanna University's ninth annual undergraduate literature and creative writing conference. This year, the conference was titled "Freedom of Thought" and featured writing from students around the state. Many of the rooms were filled with eager listeners who were enthusiastic about the presentations of their peers.

Students were divided into separate panels of three or four and were organized around various themes such as creative writing, gender, community and identity, literature, and many others. Students were able to read their work aloud, and then they had the chance to have an open discussion with the audience.

The keynote speaker at the conference was Dr. Ana Louise Keating who travelled all the way from Texas Woman's University where she is a professor of women's studies. Dr. Keating's presentation was titled "Transforming Status-Quo Stories: Gloria Anzaldúa's Revolutionary Thought" which closely examined Anzaldúa's writing as well as the importance of thinking beyond familiar boundaries to disrupt the status-quo. The conference concluded with a reading by acclaimed nonfiction writer and psychologist Lauren Slater.

Presenting at the conference was a lot of fun. Many of us were nervous to present, but when it was finally time to read our papers we were able to deliver them smoothly. It was really refreshing to have people listen to what I had spent so much time reading and researching about and to respond so eagerly with questions and comments. It also helped me to raise even more questions about my topic, which encouraged me to do further research for new (but related) projects. My favorite part of the conference was being able to hear what kind of research and literature was being examined in other schools and what kind of topics other students had become passionate about.

It was also a nice time to bond with other English majors from Mansfield as well as other universities. I would encourage other English majors to attend at least one undergraduate conference if they get the chance, because it is really a rewarding experience!

Overall, the conference was an enjoyable and rewarding experience and a great opportunity for English students to share their work with others. It was also an excellent chance for Mansfield University students to see the research and creative work from students of other universities.

Faculty Spotlight:

Dr. Keeth presented his research paper "La segunda novela de Gamaliel Churata: Identidad andina y el tejido intertextual" at the International Colloquium on Peruvian Studies *Empires and Nations of Peru* organized by the University of Montreal and the Museum of Fine Arts in Canada. This multidisciplinary colloquium formed an integral part of museum's current international exhibit: *Peru: Kingdoms of the Sun and of the Moon.* Keynote speakers included: Dr. Thomas Cummins (Harvard), Dr. Walter Alva (Museo Tumbas Reales de Sipán), Dr. Juan Carlos Estenssoro (La Sorbonne Paris III), and Dr. Santiago Uceda (Universidad Nacional de Trujillo), among others.

HOW ABOUT A MINOR IN FRENCH or GERMAN?

--Brad Holtman

The Department is excited to announce that Mansfield students again have the option of completing a Minor in French or a Minor in German. These options had previously disappeared when the major programs were placed into moratorium several years ago. However, administrative approval has now been given for granting the Minor in either of these languages. They are immediately available to students, even though you may not see them included in online publicity materials or the course catalog.

The French or German Minor consists of successful completion of 2201 & 2202 (Intermediate French or German I and II) plus three additional courses numbered above 2202. The bad news: As a result of budgetary reductions a few years ago, current staffing is insufficient to allow upper-level courses to be offered on campus. Students are thus responsible for finding these courses elsewhere. However, the good news is that there are options for you to get the necessary three courses beyond 2202 and earn the Minor via:

Study Abroad (recommended in any case for language students)

MU German Exchange with the Friedrich-Schiller-Universität, Jena, Germany, in place since 2001.

MU French Exchange in Toulouse, France

ISEP: Mansfield University is an ISEP member. Any world university with ISEP affiliation can be selected (see ***isep.org***) for study abroad, and the credits are accepted by other member institutions —like MU.

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The ISEP structure gives students flexibility in choosing programs that might complement their majors or who may wish to study in a certain city or country other than those of our exchange programs. Cost? As for the two MU exchanges above, you pay tuition and fees to MU, housing and food costs in the host country. Since student cafeterias and dorms at many foreign universities are heavily subsidized, it may even be cheaper to study abroad!

In regard to your major, you can take courses abroad that will count toward your main degree while easily completing your language minor. Many foreign universities even offer a good number of courses in English.

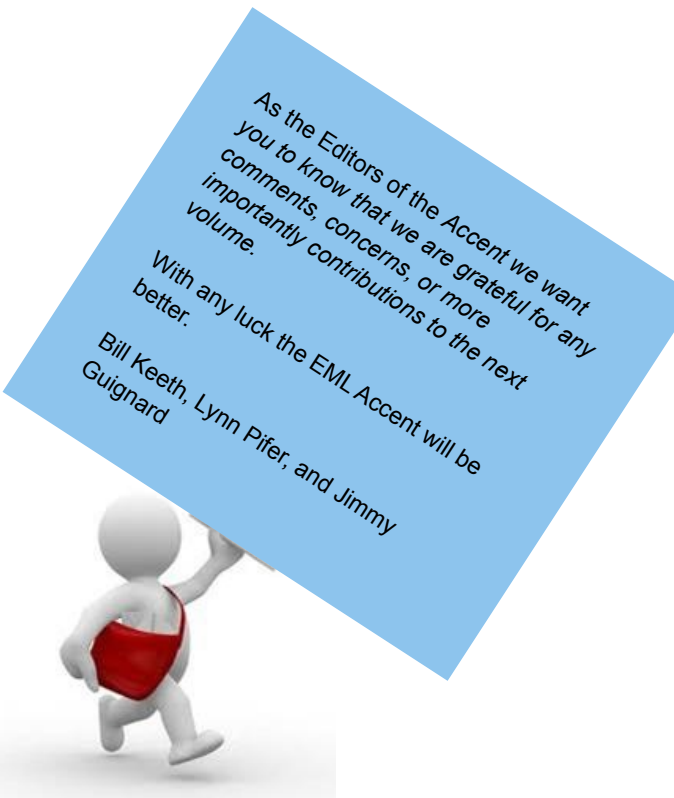
PASSHE Consortium offerings

These are online/interactive TV/ hybrid courses offered by colleagues at other institutions in the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education. There are several MU students have already completed language coursework in this manner. Students receive MU credit for consortium courses.

Why do a Minor in German or French?

A Minor in a world language is a definite boost to one's professional qualifications. The business world is only one arena where language skills are desirable. Fortune 500 companies, for instance, have repeatedly stated in polls that they want above all graduates with excellent written and verbal communication skills, and that they very much need employees with *intercultural* skills. You definitely get those from learning languages,while improving your English at the same time. This means that an employer choosing between two otherwise equally qualified candidates will likely opt for the candidate with language and culture skills.

Contact Dr. Bradley Holtman if you would like more information about the French and German Minors, or if you are interested in the German exchange. Contact Danielle Gephart for particulars about the French exchange and study abroad via ISEP, or study abroad in general.


As the Editors of the Accent we want you to know that we are grateful for any comments, concerns, or more importantly contributions to the next volume.
With any luck the EML Accent will be better.
Bill Keeth, Lynn Pifer, and Jimmy Guignard